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For Immediate Release  
March 30, 2004

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## **Senate allocates money for real-time water quality monitoring thanks to Gilbert's efforts**

**LANSING** – The Senate has added funds to the Department of Environmental Quality budget for development of a real-time water quality monitoring pilot program on the St. Clair River, Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac announced today.

The Senate included a \$250,000 line item appropriation for the monitoring program to address significant water quality concerns in the St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair. There is a long history of chemical spills into the river.

“I’m grateful that my colleagues understand the need to protect residents who live along the river,” Gilbert said. “A comprehensive water quality monitoring system will help the appropriate officials respond quickly in the event of a spill. It’s my hope that this pilot project can prove that real-time water monitoring works and is the right long-term solution to the problem.”

The DEQ budget passed by the Senate will preserve many critical programs that are focused on preserving Michigan’s water quality.

Senate Bill 1066 now goes to the House for consideration.

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**Comments from Sen. Gilbert on the DEQ budget are available on the Senate Majority  
Audiowire at <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire/index.htm>**